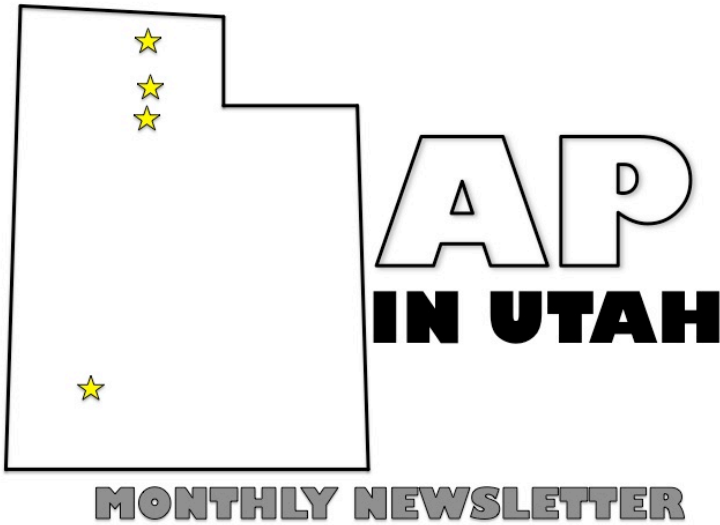


#4

LAP in Utah!



By the Numbers

A summary of the data collected by our LAP pilot partners

Spotlight On...

This month we learn more about our LAP Partners in Southern Utah!

On the docket

Take a look to see what events are coming up!

By the Numbers

An update on the LAP in Utah’s four pilot regions

LAP Stats – Sept-Nov 2015

Officer Initiated:
209 Screens, 62% High Danger
42% of High Danger Victims accessed services

Self-Initiated:
273 Screens, 90% High Danger
69% of 273 callers accessed services

LAP Stats – November 2015

Officer-initiated LAP Screens:

Among the seven partner law enforcement agencies, 66 Lethality Assessments were completed.

Of those 66 screens, 41 of them (62%) were High Danger.

30 of the 41 (73%) High Danger victims spoke with a Hotline Advocate.

12 of the 41 (29%) High Danger victims accessed services.

Of the 12 victims who accessed services:

- 67%: Crisis/Ongoing Counseling
- 58%: Case Management
- 50%: Legal Advocacy
- 33%: Shelter

Self-Initiated LAP Screens:

Among the five victim services providers who implemented the LAP on their hotline calls, 91 LAP screens were completed.

Of those 91 screens, 81 of them were High Danger and the other 3 was screened in based on the advocate’s belief (92% screened in).

62 of the 92 (68%) callers accessed services.

Of the 62 victims who accessed services:

- 94%: Crisis/Ongoing Counseling
- 65%: Case Management
- 0%: Legal Advocacy
- 65%: Shelter





NORTHERN UTAH

Spotlight on....

In this column, we highlight the regions participating in the LAP Pilot Program. Learning about the LAP in other regions in Utah will help us to compile best practices to more effectively expand the LAP across the State.

Cache County Sheriff's Office

The Cache County Sheriff's Office is located in a very picturesque, yet quiet place. Settled in 1856, the population has grown to 116,909. Cache County Sheriff's Office has 126 sworn deputies who serve in three divisions.

As an agency, CCSO handles approximately 210 domestic violence related incidents each year. The implementation of a Lethality Assessment involving victims of domestic violence was put into place through collaborative efforts with CAPSA, the local victim service provider.

Since this past September when official tracking began, CCSO has identified 22 victims at high risk for lethal intimate partner violence using the lethality assessment. Only 2 of those 22 victims have not sought immediate services from CAPSA. In those cases information was left with them at their request so they could follow up later.

With the implementation of this protocol, these victims are getting to services faster which are keeping them safer. The assessments are also helping deputies to more effectively screen for danger and ultimately better serve the victim. They also help build stronger cases against suspects.

The collaborative efforts between law enforcement and CAPSA have strengthened their partnerships.

Victims deserve our best efforts to empower them to make decisions that keep them safe. By local law enforcement *Working Together* with these victims, CAPSA, the Attorney's Office, and other community resources we can truly make a difference. Being a part of this statewide pilot program will have a far-reaching impact to help stop the cycle of violence.



Logan City Police Department

The Logan City Police Department is a full-service police agency. The department has five lieutenants, nine sergeants, and a total of sixty-two (62) sworn officers, including command staff.

Support employees include animal control officers and an evidence custodian. Customer service clerks and secretaries help provide the best police service possible to Logan.

Logan City Police Department wanted to be a part of the LAP to implement a positive, proactive tool to address domestic violence. Using the LAP allows Logan City's officers to better communicate and connect with victims of domestic violence. Partnering with CAPSA allows officers to connect victims with resources that improve their safety, allowing

officers to feel like they are providing victims of domestic violence with real solutions.



New Hope Crisis Center

The New Hope Crisis Center of Box Elder County provides all-inclusive, integrated victim centered services to survivors of domestic violence, stalking, dating violence, and sexual assault. They provide a 24/7 crisis hotline for advocacy, emergency shelter, Justice Court advocacy, protective order and civil stalking injunction assistance, case management, counseling, support groups, and classes. They seek to decrease abuse and violence in their community by raising awareness through community outreach and prevention education. All their services are free and confidential.

The New Hope Crisis Center is a small agency with 16 employees, 8 of those as full time employees. Last year, the agency served 518 women, 622 children and 179 males who were impacted by domestic violence and child abuse, dating violence, stalking, and other types of abuse. Staff provided assistance to 54 victims of sexual assault/rape, 19 victims of child sexual abuse, and 47 victims of child physical abuse. Advocacy was provided in the Justice Court to 493 victims of crime. Shelter housed 35 women and 23 children for a total of 1,724 bed days.

New Hope came on as a support agency for CAPSA last year. Staff members have all been trained in the Lethality Assessment Program. They were interested in adopting the LAP to decrease lethality and have a more uniform approach to domestic violence across our county.

At this time only the victim advocates are utilizing this tool because area law enforcement are not currently trained. New Hope has seen the LAP have an impact with the victims they have used it with. They are pleased that local law enforcement and the court system are eager to implement the LAP in their county. With all these agencies on board, they hope to see a decrease in lethality and repeat incidences of violence.



CAPSA

The mission of the **Citizens Against Physical and Sexual Abuse (CAPSA)** is to provide safe, caring, and confidential shelter, advocacy, and support for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault; and to reduce incidents of abuse through prevention education. CAPSA serves Cache and Rich Counties with 32 staff members who have served 481 clients, delivered 379 educational presentations, assisted in obtaining 215 protective orders, provided 505 hours of therapy, answered 3,532 crisis calls with the support of 14,914 volunteer hours.

CAPSA offers a variety of services include information and referrals, individual case management and safety planning, 24-hour live support line, Mobile Crisis Response Team, emergency shelter, transitional housing, prevention education, support groups, therapy services for adults and children, court advocacy, protective order assistance, civil stalking assistance, rape crisis advocacy, and multilingual and culturally specific services.

CAPSA was interested in the Lethality Assessment Program because of the success of the program shown in other states and because of several domestic violence homicides in their own community. "One homicide is one too many and if we can prevent one, it is worth implementing."

Within the first 10 days of implementation, nine people were connected to CAPSA from the local law enforcement agencies. "It's helping officers get people connected to the services they need," said Captain Curtis Hooley who oversees the program for Logan Police Department. "We are excited to have this program. I'm glad to have a tool which will help victims of domestic violence."

"Domestic violence services have been proven to save lives. It is important for Utah to make this a priority," states Jill Anderson, Executive Director of CAPSA. "We want to help individuals and families who are victims of domestic violence. The LAP will help CAPSA identify more individuals and families who need our services. Yet, as we increase the number we serve, we need additional funding."

"It is important for CAPSA to identify these individuals at risk. We are not able to help more people than ever, thanks to this new program," said Jill Anderson. "We are grateful for our partnership with law enforcement in helping to identify these people. We hope to improve this program and take it statewide."

One challenge CAPSA has encountered has been dealing with language barriers. Our local police departments have provided access to their language lines so that the officers, victims and service providers are all able to communicate together.

CAPSA hopes to see a greater connection with law enforcement as well as being able to service more survivors in their community. Victims are their number one priority, so they want to make sure they are getting them connected to the community resources available to them.

Success Stories

"A LAP referral was called into South Valley Services by a West Jordan Police Department officer who believed that a victim was at high risk of harm by her spouse. The woman accepted emergency shelter from SVS for that evening, but was later sent to stay in a hotel that SVS partners with. Shortly after entering the hotel, the victim felt it was safer to get stable housing arrangements at a shelter, and contacted SVS again. SVS was able to assist her with obtaining a referral to another shelter that had space available for a woman and children so that she could provide security and stability for her family."

The resources that the LAP and its partners have provided for families in need is continually growing and getting stronger. Having additional resources, like the hotel voucher, was able to give the woman and her family comfort and safety until more stable, longer term arrangements could be made. This family now knows that if the time comes that she requires additional services or a safe place to be, West Jordan Police Department, its victim advocates and SVS will be there for her."

- Viridiana Zendejas,
South Valley Services

Thank you, Governor Herbert!

On December 9th, 2015 Governor Gary Herbert released his proposed budget for SFY17 included the independent funding request submitted by UDVC on behalf of our member programs. The SFY17 proposed budget includes \$895,000 one time funding to be appropriated through DHS to UDVC member programs to improve capacity for high-risk survivors. This amount includes a small award to UDVC to continue to support the coordination and evaluation of the LAP efforts across Utah.

We still have much work at hand and need to continue to promote awareness of the need for this important funding. We aim to work with Social Services Appropriations, Executive Appropriations, and key legislators to ensure successful funding is made as recommended by Governor Herbert. Please thank your legislative supporters for their efforts thus far, and ask for their ongoing support in the coming session.

Please stay tuned for an updated bifold to support awareness of the funding request, and for some strategic plans to coordinate our efforts.

Current and future LAP Partners, we appreciate all the work you are doing, both on the ground and behind the scenes, to make the LAP a success and expand the program statewide! Thank you!

On the docket

January

- 7 – Statewide LAP Bimonthly Meeting
- 10 – December LAP Data Submission Deadline
- 21 – Brigham City Training of Trainers Session

February

- 10 – January LAP Data Submission Deadline
- TBA – Provo Training of Trainers Session

LAP Newsletter: Call for Content!

Have a story to share? Have a question you need answered? Have a suggestion on a topic to be covered? Want to write a piece?

E-mail Maggie Bale,
LAP Coordinator, at
mbale@udvc.org

Utah Domestic Violence Coalition

Advocate • Collaborate • Educate

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